UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

FEB 22 2011

Joseph M. Ettore, P.E.
County Engineer,
Monmouth County Department of
Public Works and Engineering
Hall Of Records Annex,
Freehold, NJ 07728

Dear Mr. Ettore:

This is in response to your request for a categorical exclusion (CATEX) from substantive environmental review requirements, pursuant to 40 CFR Part 6, for Monmouth County's proposed Vehicle and Equipment Wash Facility Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements project, to be constructed in Freehold Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey. This project may be partially funded by a Special Appropriations Act grant.

Monmouth County is currently undergoing an overall Public Works Complex upgrade. As part of this effort, the county is proposing to construct a full service vehicle and equipment wash facility that will centralize and improve the processes currently utilized at various existing facilities within the Complex. These improvements will require an extension of the existing stormwater system, increased water service, and revised drainage and stormwater management for the site, including stormwater treatment devices and vehicle wash building wastewater treatment measures. These new facilities will comply with the State's approved Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. In addition, the Public Works Complex site is regulated under the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Pollution Discharge Elimination System regulations.

The proposed wash facility will allow for the maintenance of the County's vehicle and equipment fleet in compliance with State law, and protect the quality of groundwater and surface water throughout Monmouth County. It will be designed to contain all wash water and direct it to the existing sanitary sewer for treatment. The facility will incorporate a water conservation system that will treat and reuse a portion of wash water for other vehicle and equipment washing. While an increase in the number of washings is expected, this will be offset by these new efficiencies in technology that are expected to reduce the per year usage of water from 1,800,000 gallons to 650,000 gallons. In addition, the County will utilize renewable sources of energy to power the equipment, thus reducing emissions and their impact on air quality within the State.

In order to accommodate the proposed wash facility, 895 linear feet of 8-inch PVC pipe will be installed to connect the facility to the existing Freehold Township sewer system on the south side of the property. Wastewater will be ultimately conveyed to an existing treatment facility. In addition, to provide water for the facility, 910 feet of 8-inch water main will be installed, as well as additional 2-, 4- and 6-inch service mains.

As part of this project, site stormwater management will also be addressed. Nonstructural stormwater management techniques, including protection of steep slopes, disconnection of impervious surfaces by directing runoff to grass swales and bio-retention facilities, and protection of natural drainage features and vegetation by minimizing clearing of land and disturbance of native ground cover to the greatest extent possible, will be utilized.

Structural stormwater management techniques, including the collection and routing of runoff to expanded and proposed detention basins to ensure peak flow attenuation and suspended solids removal, in conjunction with manufactured stormwater treatment devices, will also be incorporated, "treating" stormwater prior to discharge to Applegate Creek..

These improvements meet the CATEX eligibility criteria found in 40 CFR 6.204(a)(1)(ii). This category includes "actions relating to existing infrastructure systems (such as sewer systems; drinking water supply systems; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) that involve minor upgrading, or minor expansion of system capacity or rehabilitation (including functional replacement) of the existing system and system components (such as the sewer collection network and treatment system; the system to collect, treat, store and distribute drinking water; and stormwater systems, including combined sewer overflow systems) or construction of new minor ancillary facilities adjacent to or on the same property as existing facilities."

This project does not involve a new or relocated discharge to surface or ground water, an increase in the volume or loading of pollutants to receiving water, or capacity to serve a population 30 percent greater than the existing population. Further, it is not contrary to any state or regional growth plan or strategy; and it is not primarily for the purpose of future development.

Additionally, the available information you provided concerning the proposed action indicates that none of the specific criteria for not granting a CATEX, found in 40 CFR 6.204(b)(1) through (b)(10), are present.

Based on our review of the supporting documentation, EPA approves a CATEX for the project. Please be reminded that EPA may revoke this CATEX if any of the following conditions occur:

- changes in the proposed action render it ineligible for exclusion;

- new evidence indicates that serious local or environmental issues exist; or

- federal, state, or local laws would be violated.

Furthermore, EPA strongly encourages project sponsors to incorporate green practices into all phases of a project, including planning, design and construction. Such practices can promote sustainable infrastructure, support development of a "green" workforce, and reduce long-term operation and maintenance costs. EPA notes that a variety of green measures have been incorporated into this project, and strongly encourages the County to continue to incorporate green practices as a standard part of future projects. Towards that end, we are enclosing a fact sheet that identifies a variety of recommendations that should be given consideration moving forward for this and other County–sponsored projects.

This CATEX is available for public viewing on EPA Region 2's website, http://www.epa.gov/region02/spmm/r2nepa.htm#r2docs. Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please address them to Grace Musumeci, Chief, Environmental Review Section, at the above address.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Enck

Judith A. Enck,
Regional Administrator

Enclosure

# EPA Region 2

## Green Project Recommendations and Resources

EPA strongly encourages that the concepts outlined below be considered by those receiving federal grant assistance for water, wastewater, stormwater, or water quality protection projects. In this regard, project sponsors are encouraged to use local and/or recycled materials; to recycle materials generated onsite; to utilize low-emissions technologies and fuels; and to incorporate renewable-energy (e.g., solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, and biomass) and energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable technology in project design, construction, and operation.

- **Utilize Clean Diesel Technology** http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/
  Diesel controls, cleaner fuel, and cleaner construction practices can be utilized for both on-road and off-road equipment used for transportation, excavation, and other construction activities. Particular consideration should be given to the following concepts:

  1) Strategies and technologies to reduce unnecessary idling, including auxiliary power units, the use of electric equipment, and establishing and enforcing limits on idling time.
  2) The use of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel in non-road applications.
  3) The use of add-on control technologies like diesel oxidation catalysts and particulate filters, repowering, or newer, cleaner diesel equipment.
     http://www.mass.gov/dep/air/diesel/conretro.pdf
  4) Contract specifications can be used to require contractors to use advanced pollution controls and clean fuels. http://www.epa.gov/diesel/construction/contract-lang.htm. A model specification is available online at http://www.northeastdiesel.org/pdf/NEDC-Construction-Contract-Spec.pdf.

- **Use Alternative and Renewable Energy**
  The U.S. Department of Energy's "Green Power Network" (GPN) provides information and markets that can be used to supply alternative generated electricity. The following link identifies several suppliers of renewable energy.
  http://apps3.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/buying/buying_power.shtml

- **Incorporate onsite energy generation and energy efficient equipment upgrades into projects at drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities**
  Promote the use of captured biogas in combined heat and power systems and/or renewable energy (wind, solar, etc.) to generate energy for use onsite as well as upgrades to more energy efficient equipment (pumps, motors, etc.).
  http://www.epa.gov/waterinfrastructure/bettermanagement_energy.html

- **Utilize Energy Star/Multi-media building and land design practices**
  Consideration should be given to including building practices which have multi-media benefits, including energy efficiency, water conservation, and healthy indoor air quality. Apply building rating systems and tools, such as Energy Star, Energy Star Indoor Air Package, and Water Sense for building construction.
  http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=business.bus_bldgs and http://www.usgbc.org/

- **Implement Water Efficiency**
  Water efficiency can make infrastructure systems more sustainable by reducing the quantity of water treated and distributed through the water supply system, and subsequently by the wastewater treatment and disposal systems. EPA is promoting water use practices that increase efficiency, eliminate waste, and conserve water resources, resulting in a decreased burden on our water resources. The WaterSense program, http://www.epa.gov/watersense, promotes the market for water-efficient products through the use of WaterSense-labeled products and the use of contractors certified through a WaterSense-labeled program. Water supply utilities can also decrease the burden on water and wastewater treatment systems by reducing the amount of drinking water lost from their leaking water distribution pipes. Additional details on the Sustainable Infrastructure Initiative can be found at http:\\www.epa.gov/waterinfrastructure.

- **Source Management for Stormwater Runoff**
  Green infrastructure and low impact development approaches can reduce, capture, and treat stormwater runoff at its source. Site-specific practices, such as green roofs, downspout disconnections, rain harvesting/gardens, planter boxes, and porous pavements are designed to mimic natural hydrologic functions and decrease the amount of impervious area and stormwater runoff. Preserving and recreating natural landscape features can create functional and appealing site drainage that treats storm water as a resource rather than a waste product. http://www.epa.gov/nps/lid, and http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/greeninfrastructure/technology.cfm

- **Encourage cost-efficient, environmentally-friendly landscaping**
  EPA's GreenScapes program provides cost-efficient and environmentally friendly solutions for landscaping. Designed to help preserve natural resources and prevent waste and pollution, GreenScapes encourages companies, government agencies, other entities, and homeowners to make holistic decisions regarding waste generation and disposal and the associated impacts on land, water, air, and energy use.
  http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/rrr/greenscapes/index.htm

- **Use recycled materials in highway and construction projects.**
  Many industrial and construction byproducts are suitable and available for use in road or infrastructure construction. http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/rrr/imr/index.htm Use of these materials can save money and reduce environmental impact. The Recycled Materials Resource Center has user guidelines and specifications for recycled material.
  http://www.recycledmaterials.org/tools/uguidelines/index.asp.

- **Safely Reuse and/or Recycle Project-related Debris and Waste**
  The *Federal Green Construction Guide for Specifiers* includes a construction waste management specification. http://www.wbdg.org/design/greenspec.php

- **Utilize environmentally preferable purchasing**
  Promote markets for environmentally preferable products by referencing EPA's multi-attribute Environmentally Preferable Purchasing guidance. http://www.epa.gov/epp